

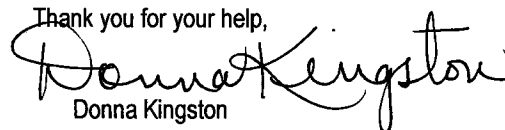
Secretary Jennifer Johnson
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
20th Street and Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20551

Dear Secretary Johnson,

Please make a final ruling limiting debit card swipe fees to a twelve-cent maximum. Nearly every one of my friends in the retail industry have told me they are going to stop accepting debit and credit cards because fees have gotten so expensive. My corporate office does my credit card processing for a nominal monthly fee; however, my fellow independent shop owners are not as fortunate.

Accepting debit and credit has become an unavoidable necessity for retailers. When you operate as a business owner and accept checks, you also accept the liability if they are not good. When you accept debit or credit, you are guaranteed the money is there. It is my guess that, at some point in the near future, checks and cash will become obsolete and plastic will replace them.

When credit companies become the only game in town, we do not want them to grow into the next "too big to fail" companies. For too long, these businesses have been allowed to run amuck, changing rates at anytime for any reason and charging exorbitant interchange fees to business owners and late fees to all their customers. We need the Federal Reserve ruling in order to curb the credit card companies' appetites from excessively eating all that is left of my friends and fellow business owners profits.

Thank you for your help,

Donna Kingston